(a) the reasons for curtailing the period of industrial package to Uttarakhand State for the year 2010 by ruling Government, in place of the year 2013, as given by earlier Government; and

(b) whether Government has any separate industrial policy for hilly States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) As already stated in Para 140 of the Finance Minister's Speech 2004-05 made in the Parliament on 8th July, 2004, area-specific exemptions from excise duty granted by the Government from time to time to various states (including Uttarakhand) were reviewed and made available to units set up or expanded in the States other than the North Eastern States and Jammu and Kashmir on or before 31st March, 2007. Subsequently, this was extended up to 31st March, 2010 by a notification issued by the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance on 2nd August, 2006.

(b) No, Sir.

Preferential duty free market access

262. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what would be impact of recent Prime Minister's announcement of preferential duty-free market access to 50 least developed countries;

(b) whether China, Brazil and other developed countries are also offering this above kind of market access to least developed countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Duty Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) Scheme for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) announced on the occasion of the India Africa Forum Summit on 8 April, 2008 would have a positive impact on the LDCs. It provides enhanced market access for the products of export interest to LDCs thereby helping in their economic development. The Scheme provides duty free and preferential market access to all LDCs on 94% of India's total tariff lines. These tariff lines cover 92.5% of the global exports of all LDCs.

(b) to (c) As per the World Trade Organisation's (WTOs) Trade Policy Review report, China provided special preference tariffs to imports of some goods from 37 least developed Countries (LDCs) with which it had certain tariff agreements. Brazil is still in the process of formulating a DFQF preferential market access scheme for LDCs. Several other countries, both developed and developing, provide preferential market access to LDCs. The details of the some of these schemes are given in the Statement.

Statement

Country	Details of Preferential Market Access Schemes
Australia	Australia provides duty free quota free access for all products originating in LDCs.
Canada	With the exception of a few items, Canada provides duty and quota free access on all imports from LDCs
European Union	Under the "Everything But Arms" (EBA) initiative, the EC provides duty free quota free market access to the LDCs.
Japan	Provides duty free quota free treatment to LDCs under the GSP Scheme.
Switzerland	Provides duty free quota free treatment to LDCs under the New Swiss GSP Scheme.
USA	Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), USA provides duty free market access to the sub Saharan African countries including LDCs.
Republic of Korea	Provides preferential duty free access on selected items originating from LDCs.

Expansion in coffee production in tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh

263. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coffee grown in tribal areas of Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, is having a tremendous demand in other countries since this area has been declared as organic zone;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has accepted to expand the coffee cultivation to 60,000 acres in this areas in the Eleventh Plan looking at the export potential that it has; and

(c) if so, how his Ministry in cooperation with the Integrated Tribal Development Agency, is planning to export more and more coffee and help the tribals growing coffee in this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Around 50 MT (Metric Tonnes) of certified organic coffee was exported from Andhra Pradesh by a Non-Governmental Organisation, against a total production of about 4900 MT from that State. In general, though there is increasing demand for certified organic coffee in the global market, not all certified coffees command premiums, and it is the quality of coffee which is the main basis for the premiums commanded by the organic coffees. Thus, the demand for coffee grown in the tribal areas of Visakhapatnam is quality based, rather than it merely being an organic version.